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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE**In re United States Patent Application of:****Applicant:** Adam G. Malofsky et al.**Serial No.:** 09/840,859**Filed:** April 24, 2001**Title:** FASTENING DEVICE**Examiner:** D.R. Zirker**Art Group:** 1771**Atty. Docket** 7962801/0503762**CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that this document totaling 17 pages is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Fax No. (703) 872-9310, on March 31, 2004.


Edward K. Welch II**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED FEBRUARY 10, 2004**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action issued on February 10, 2004 with respect to the above-identified pending patent application, please enter the following amendment and response.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2. The **Remarks** begin on page 12.

Response to 2.10.04 OA